

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 12404 160632Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 SS-15
STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01
/095 W

-----048116 160633Z /15

R 160607Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 205

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, JA

SUBJECT: CHEMICAL FERTILIZER

REF: STATE 186053

1. EMBASSY FEELS THAT CONVEYANCE OF DRAFT AIDE-MEMOIRE IN ITS PRESENT FORM WILL NOT GENERATE A HELPFUL REACTION. SECOND PARA. OF SUGGESTED AIDE-MEMOIRE WILL BE READ AS OVERLY BLUNT REJECTION OF MITI'S RATIONALE FOR ITS HANDLING OF U.S. PHOSPHATE PRODUCT IMPORTS AND AN OPEN ACCUSATION OF MITI'S ENGAGING IN TRADE RESTRICTIVE MEASURES. PROSECUTION ATTORNEY LANGUAGE LIKE "IN OUR VIEW, IT IS MOST UNLIKELY..." AND "PATTERN OF MITI'S BEHAVIOR..." IS LIKELY TO BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE. INSTEAD OF READING IT AS AN OVERTURE TO CONSTRUCTIVE CONSULTATIONS ON OUR AMMONIUM PHOSPHATE TRADE, THE GOJ MAY VERY WELL LOOK ON THE AIDE-MEMOIRE AS A GRATUITOUS SLAP THAT HAS NOT BEEN BACKED UP BY CAREFUL CONSIDERATION. THE LIKELY RESULT WILL BE A STUBBORN ENTRENCHMENT BY THE GOJ "TO RESIST FOREIGN PRESSURES."

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PAGE 02 TOKYO 12404 160632Z

2. THUS, EMBASSY PROPOSES THAT PARAS. 2 AND 3 OF AIDE-MEMOIRE BE REPLACED BY THE FOLLOWING:

" THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WOULD LIKE TO STATE FOR THE RECORD THAT WHETHER OR NOT MITI'S ACTIONS CONSTITUTED AN OFFICIAL ACTION THAT RESULTED IN A

TRADE RESTRICTION, WE BELIEVE IT IS MOST UNLIKELY THAT THE IMPORTERS WOULD HAVE DECIDED TO RESTRAIN THEIR IMPORTS IF MITI HAD NOT CONTACTED THEM REGARDING THE SITUATION IN THE DOMESTIC INDUSTRY. WE FIND MITI'S ACTION ON THIS ISSUE DIFFICULT TO RECONCILE WITH RECENT STATEMENTS ABOUT INTEREST IN INCREASING THE VALUE OF IMPORTS INTO JAPAN.

THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, THEREFORE, WISHES TO REGISTER A PROTEST AND TO INFORM THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN THAT IF CORRECTIVE STEPS ARE NOT TAKEN, WE MAY HAVE TO TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO SAFEGUARD OUR RIGHTS UNDER THE GATT."

3. IN THIS WAY, WE CAN OFFER THE CHANCE FOR A DIALOGUE AND A QUIET SETTLEMENT WHILE STILL MAKING CLEAR OUR INTENTION TO PURSUE STRONGER MEASURES IF UNSATISFIED WITH GOJ RESPONSE.
MANSFIELD

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CHEMICALS, FERTILIZERS, IMPORT CONTROLS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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